

# PLAIN TALKS

November/December 1993

Volume 72 Number 5

*Merry Christmas*  
*1993*





## About the cover

The Corporate Communications Department would like to wish all GSU employees, retirees and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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# Home builder uses Good Cents



*This Baton Rouge area home was built as a Good Cents home and is designed to accommodate physically disabled people.*

by Pris Gallagher

A new home in the Baton Rouge area combines convenience, comfort and style to provide independent living for the physically disabled.

Brainchild of a local realtor, the Louisiana House culminated a three-year project that included input from handicapped persons and research into matching technology and design to provide a barrier-free home environment. GSU worked closely with the builder, providing technical advice on energy-efficient construction.

The house, Good Cents certified, was built with practical ideas that make the home more livable for people with physical limitations.

Architectural features, such as no thresholds at doorways, a five-foot turning radius in the master closet, lower light switches and three foot doorways are subtle additions to the graceful three-bedroom home.

Every consideration was given to living from the height of a wheelchair - even the thermostats were lowered. "Everything was designed to make it easy for a wheel-chair-bound person to live normally while making it possible for people with fewer or no limitations to enjoy the home as well," said Karen Yates, Baton Rouge Division marketing agent.

Yates is quick to point out that the home is appropriate for anyone, but is adaptable should the needs of people living there change. It is a home that can serve a family's needs for many

years, through changes in health and lifestyles.

"Adaptability is the key," said Yates.

This is most evident in the kitchen, where a homeowner with limited physical abilities can find even simple chores much easier thanks to shallow kitchen

cabinets and a roll-out island that provides additional workspace at adjustable heights. Likewise, with a few simple adjustments, the kitchen sink and the cooktop can be raised or lowered. The built-in oven and microwave are at a wheelchair-accessible height.

Widened hallways feature decorative chair rails that double as handrails. Even electrical outlets are slightly higher to provide convenience.

Complementing the special features are such modern amenities as a whirlpool tub, an open floor plan and elegant ceramic tile flooring, so the Louisiana House can appeal to all members of the family.

And with the emphasis on comfort and cost of operation, the Good Cents certification ensures lower utility bills and all-around comfort and convenience.

"A high efficiency air conditioner and the latest in high-tech electric equipment can provide years of trouble-free operation at a lower operating cost," commented Dennis Smith, marketing coordinator in Baton Rouge.

"An added plus is the ten percent discount for the first three years due to the Good Cents rate," added Smith. "That has been a big selling point."

Smith feels the project is the first step to provide housing that is practical to all members of the family, regardless of the limitations.

"The Louisiana House provides more affordable housing and a better lifestyle for the physically challenged," he added.



*The bathroom sinks, tub and shower are all accessible by wheelchair.*



# GSU/Entergy teams work together

by David Lewis with contributions from Bill Harris,  
Danny Koonce and Harry Wadsworth

*Integration team members work in two worlds: the world of their regular jobs and the world of their integration responsibilities. And they have the awesome task of merging two worlds: the world of GSU and the world of Entergy.*

*When talking with integration team members, a few themes pop up again and again. Participants from both companies have been tremendously impressed with their counterparts. And almost without exception, integration team members interviewed are enthusiastic about benefits the merger will bring both companies. That's the good news.*

*Individuals on integration teams report that they have an enormous amount of integration work to do and not much time to do it, and most lament that it's difficult to meet integration responsibilities while continuing to do their regular jobs. But meet them, they will.*

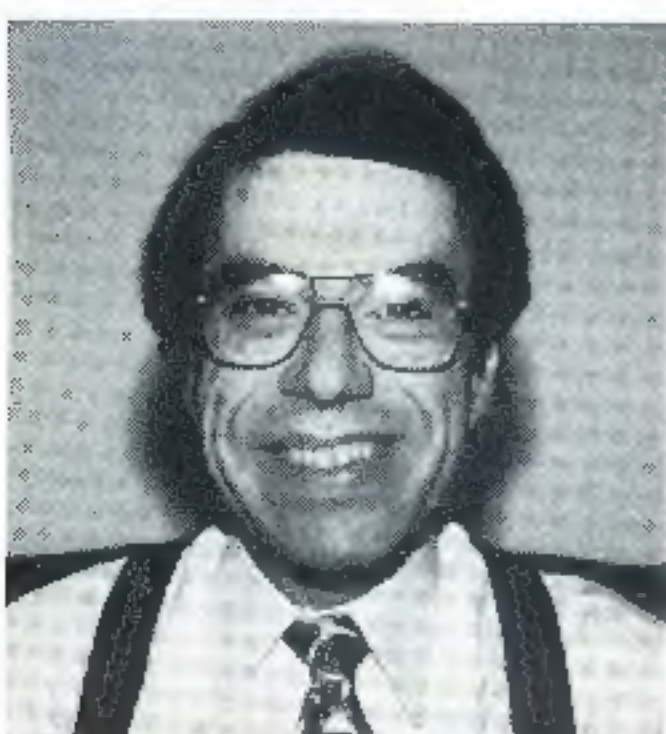
*Following are conversations with a few of the many employees involved in integration efforts.*



George Heintzen



Butch Franklin



Don Peters



John Spivey

## Teamwork is what it takes

How have the teams accomplished as much as they have? "I'd rate our team's difficulty at 6 or 7 on a scale of 10. The reason I wouldn't put it at a 10 is because the people we're working with at Gulf States really are fine people. I don't think I could walk through and pick a better group of people to work with than the ones we've got," said George Heintzen, Entergy's sector executive residential, at TDCS headquarters.

"We put some of our best people on the sub-teams we formed, and by so doing we are accomplishing miracles," said Butch Franklin, GSU's director of division accounting services. "Normally, we'd probably be looking at two years to reorganize each function. The business office systems integration team will have done its work in about three and a half months."

Cooperation has been the name of the game in many cases, and Don Peters, on the Regulatory Affairs team from Entergy, said this is vital to their team even though "the processes in regulatory areas at Entergy and GSU are quite similar." Peters explained that the "volume of material required for a regulatory filing in Texas is significantly more than in any of our current jurisdictions."

"There have been times when we were up to our gills and we were up against deadlines that seemed impossible," said John Spivey, operating supervisor for GSU's Southeast Texas Division. "But we just have whatever number of meetings and do whatever amount of work it takes to get it done. We call it pick and shovel work because it's a lot of nitty-gritty get-down-in-the-trenches type work."

Ethelyn Jenkins, a member of the employee practices team from GSU, agreed that a real challenge is to "meet team deadlines as well as keep up with my regular work load. I have to thank my coworkers for pitching in and helping me with my routine work."

One strategy in accomplishing team objectives, according to Mike Bakewell, plant manager at Entergy's Ninemile Point Plant, is "breaking down our work into processes to accomplish each assigned piece and keep us focused."



Ethelyn Jenkins



Mike Bakewell

## Best practices a two-way street

"I've come to realize that even though we're similar utilities, they're doing some things a little better than we



are and we're doing some things better than they are. It's a two-way street," said P.J. Martinez, director of transmission standards for Entergy.



*P.J. Martinez*

Heintzen noted, "What we are finding, to no one's surprise, is there are some good ideas at GSU and some good ideas at Entergy, and both of us are standing back and saying, 'You know, why didn't I think of that before?'"

As an example, a member of Entergy's nuclear health physics peer group, Tom Tankersley, radiation control superintendent at Grand Gulf, noted that having River Bend participate with the Entergy peer group for about a year has allowed members to see that "their organization will dove-tail nicely into ours."

In seeking these best practices and ways of doing things, "there is a real spirit of cooperation," said Art Gilreath, Fossil's manager of technology development at Entergy. "All teams have put aside personal agendas to look at the best solutions."

## Shaping the future

Dennis Lytle, GSU's Gas Division general supervisor of construction and corrosion, noted another common concern among integration team members. "You're dealing with people, people that you know. And you could very well be affecting their career and their future."

But, for the integration teams to do their jobs properly, "you have to remove yourself and try to be totally objective. You really have to be sure about making the right decisions. If we don't propose the proper organizational structure now and have to come back and go through this again in 12 months, it would be bad for everybody involved."

Perry Duprene, Entergy's manager for gas construction, who works on an integration team with Lytle, said that for him the best part about being on an integration team is "being able to help shape the future ... having an opportunity to change things you've seen not work in the past and make them right."

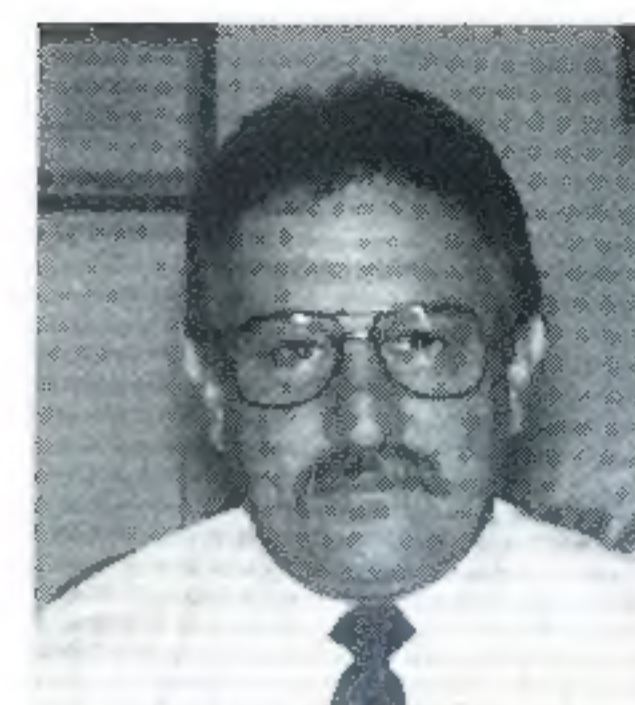
John Graham, operations superintendent at Entergy's Little Gypsy Plant, echoed these thoughts. "It's an exciting task to be on the operations team because we're developing what the new company will look like on the operational side. We're moving at a fast pace, but we're going at this like a jury, build a consensus and make sure we all agree."



*Art Gilreath*



*Dennis Lytle*



*John Graham*

Franklin, who has been with GSU 37 years, also shared Duprene's sentiments. "Being on an integration team, you have some say into how your company is going to be changed. Especially when you've been around as long as I have, you want to make GSU as good as it can be, whether it's part of Entergy or standing alone."

Just the same, Franklin acknowledged, "We would love to have remained a stand-alone company. But that's not what happened. In the real world, we need to merge. I think it's going to make us a strong company and we'll be able to serve our customers better."

## People the key to this winning combination

Integration team members have gained valuable insights into the people who make up one another's companies. Roger Gillespie, senior relay engineer for GSU, recalled, "The people I've worked with have all been just as knowledgeable about what they're working on as they can be. They've all been real good people to work with."

Similarly, Janie Tucker of Property Accounting at Entergy said "The GSU folks are committed to doing a good job on the integration effort. It has made my task much easier than it could have been." Tucker said the hardest part of the project has been "dealing with the timing. The Entergy Property Accounting reorganization was just completed in July. As a result, we were still adjusting to the new way of doing business when integration work kicked in. The business analysis phase of the project would have been impossible without the efforts of the folks in both Entergy and GSU Property Accounting groups."

GSU's Spivey noted that when Entergy reorganized previously, "It's pretty clear to me that when they picked teams, they put winners in every spot I've seen so far. I haven't seen any duds."

"Truly, the GSU folks we've worked with are very professional," said Doug Nelson, Entergy's manager of information systems for TDCS. "They're taking a very proactive role in doing this and are really interested in seeing that the best decisions are made for the combined company."

Lytle concurs. "Everybody I've met at Entergy seems to be very professional, very likeable. I think once we combine that I'll enjoy getting to know these people better."



*Roger Gillespie*



*Janie Tucker*



*Doug Nelson*





## Threatened tortoise finds friends in Baton Rouge

by Mike Rodgers

Gopher Tortoise. The name brings to mind the image of a furry tortoise moving slowly across the ground as the world speeds by. The Gopher Tortoise, however, is not slow and doesn't have any fur. "It's just a regular old tortoise," says Dale Byerley, inspector-tree trimming, in Baton Rouge. The Gopher Tortoise has taken up residence on some GSU rights-of-way (r-o-w) in Louisiana and since it is listed as "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act, Byerley is working on a management plan with Norman Kinsella, supervisor-contractors and Phil Waller, coordinator-vegetation control, to protect it.

A vegetarian, the Gopher Tortoise dines on grasses, shrubs and berries and is very choosy about the neighborhood

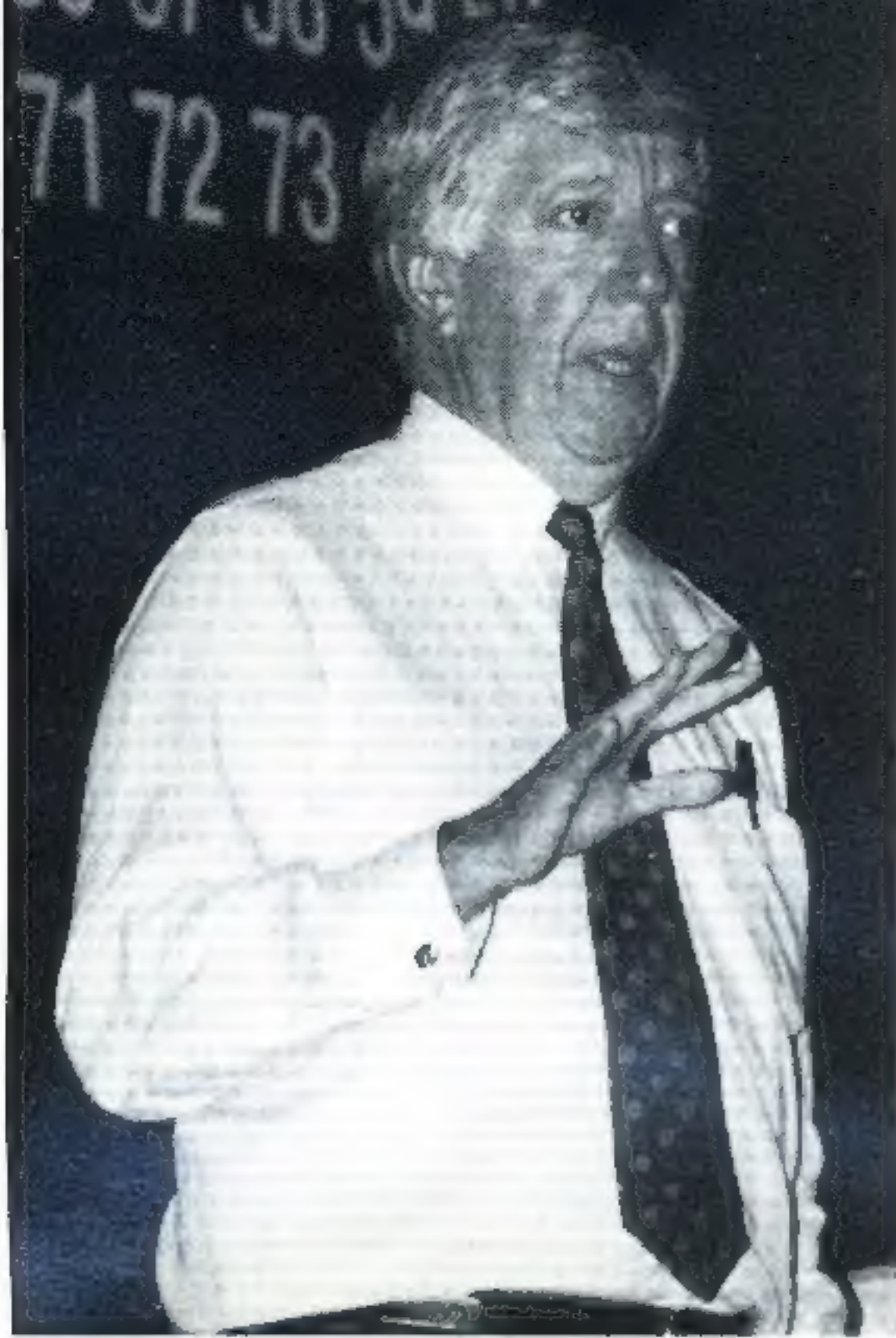
where it lives. "It prefers the sandy, loam soil found in and around long-leaf pines," Byerley says. Not only are the tortoises choosy about the neighborhood, they prefer large homes with a porch facing the sun. "A burrow can be up to 40-feet long and 10-feet underground," notes Byerley. The porch is actually an apron made of sand extending along the mouth of the burrow. When a Gopher Tortoise lays eggs, it buries them eight to ten inches deep in the sand comprising the apron. The sun warms the sand, incubating the eggs.

Penalties for disturbing or destroying the Gopher Tortoise habitat are severe, so GSU is taking steps to advise line crews of their presence. According to Byerley, in the Washington Parish r-o-w's where the tortoises reside, metal fence posts are placed within five feet of the burrows and painted orange as a warning to stay away. The management plan strives to control the vegetation in the r-o-w while at the same time, minimizing the impact on the tortoise and enhancing the habitat. "We will plant grasses where erosion is a problem," advises Byerley. "They will also provide food for the tortoise." Handheld spraying of low-volume herbicides will keep the vegetation manageable. The Fish and Wildlife Service concurs with GSU that these herbicide treatments are the best method to enhance the tortoise habitat. Records must be kept of the number of occupied and unoccupied burrows in case one of them decides to move to a new apartment.

The Gopher Tortoise faces predators at every turn. Byerley estimates that snakes, ants and possums kill 80 or 90 percent of the eggs buried in the apron. In addition, the large burrows attract snakes which find their spaciousness appealing. Byerley once saw a film of a tortoise nose-to-nose with a rattlesnake inspecting the property. "The snake concluded that the place was occupied and left," he says.

Byerley has first-hand proof that the cliché "slow as a turtle" is untrue, at least for the Gopher Tortoise. "I was out putting fence posts in the ground around a burrow and painting them orange. It was a hot day, so I stopped to rest a moment. Suddenly, I saw movement in the grass near a post. I figured that if the tortoise was 10 feet from the burrow, I could snap a photo with my camera. I raced toward it, but was too late. That tortoise was as fast as a linebacker. I swear I heard laughter from down inside that burrow."





*Entergy's Chuck Kelly*

# Systemwide Sideliners gather at Lake Arthur

photos by Scott Harper



*Beaumont Division*



*Lake Charles Division*



*Port Arthur Division*



*Baton Rouge Division*





# A look back at Entergy Corporation

by Edy McConnell

Entergy Corporation is one of the largest investor-owned public utility holding companies in the country. How it got that way is an interesting story that began in the 1800s with small companies scattered throughout Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

The first company to set the stage for Entergy's growth was New Orleans Gas Light Company, which James Caldwell founded in 1833 to provide gas to a few street lights and a hotel. Caldwell's bright idea caught on, and by 1900 more than 200 streetcar, gas and electric companies were operating in New Orleans. Intense competition and financial problems resulted from the duplication of service. In early 1921, a federally appointed citizens committee recommended that one modern public utility be formed to provide electric, gas and transit services in the city. Several companies were consolidated and New Orleans Public Service was born in 1922.

Meanwhile, on the northern end of the state several small utilities were struggling to supply electricity to mostly rural areas. In 1927 they were absorbed into Louisiana Power & Light Company. In addition to electric service properties, the new company acquired an electric railway system, gas reserves and telephone, water and ice properties.

While New Orleans Public Service and Louisiana Power & Light Company were busy acquiring properties and consolidating service, Harvey Couch of Calhoun, Ark., was working on his dream of building an integrated electric system for Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Couch started out in the telephone end of the utility business in 1903. By 1911 he and his associates had set up more than 50 telephone exchanges and over 1,500 miles of telephone lines across Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma. Couch eventually sold the telephone properties to Bell Telephone Company and devoted his time to creating an electric utility system in Arkansas.

Couch incorporated Arkansas Power Company in Malvern, Ark., in 1913. Rapidly acquiring new properties across the state, Couch changed the company's name to Arkansas Light & Power and relocated its headquarters to Pine Bluff. After acquiring scattered properties in Mississippi, he established Mississippi Power & Light Company



*Mississippi Power & Light entered into an agreement with Arkansas Light & Power and Louisiana Power & Light in 1924.*

in Jackson in 1923. Right away the new utility hired a group of engineers to determine how to connect the various properties and supply the planned electrical system with one central power source. Late in 1924, the MP&L Board of Directors approved a plan in which the company entered an agreement with Arkansas Light & Power and Louisiana Power & Light. A large power plant would be built near Sterlington in northern Louisiana to supply power to the three systems.

While Couch was trying to tie the three companies together, another pioneer in the electric utility industry was also acquiring properties and linking them. Sidney Mitchell, an Alabama native, was building Electric Bond and Share Co. (EBASCO) to become one of the biggest electric utility holding companies in the country. A subsidiary of General Electric Co., EBASCO salvaged small electric companies to which General Electric had extended credit for machinery and supplies. EBASCO provided capital for the companies' expansions and got equity interests in them in return.



Couch began to face keen competition in acquiring properties in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi from Mitchell's EBASCO, which held electric properties and streetcar systems in such nearby locales as Little Rock, Memphis and New Orleans. EBASCO also acquired New Orleans Public Service.

Rather than let competition drive up prices, Couch and Mitchell consolidated their groups in 1925 into one coordinated system owned by EBASCO's holding company, Electric Power & Light. That same year, EBASCO became independent of General Electric Co. Arkansas Light & Power was renamed Arkansas Power & Light Company and Couch was named president of AP&L, LP&L and MP&L, with his office located in Pine Bluff.

The Holding Company Act of 1935 created a major change in the operating companies' relationship with EBASCO. According to the act, utilities could be part of a regional holding company only if its subsidiary power companies operated in geographically contiguous areas. As a result, EBASCO and its subsidiary Electric Power &

Light Corporation had to dispose of their far-flung power companies in 1949. That same year Middle South Utilities, Inc. was created to own common stock of Arkansas Power & Light Company, Louisiana Power & Light Company, Mississippi Power & Light Company and New Orleans Public Service, Inc.

The decades that followed were marked by growth of service

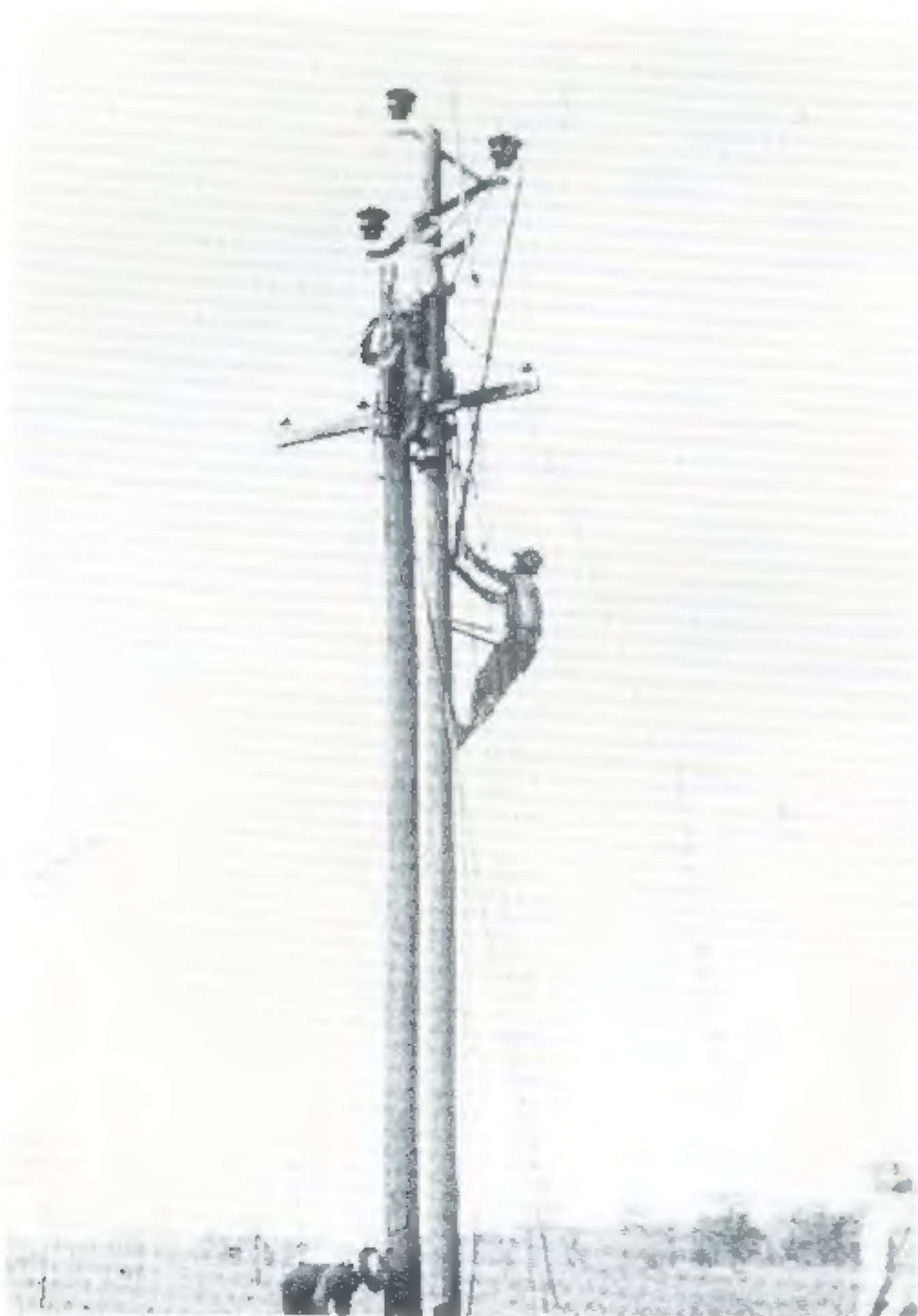
territory, power plant construction and increased demand for electric service. In 1967, the company's Extra High Voltage (EHV) system was energized. A pioneer project in transmission, it allowed a power interchange among 11 investor-owned utilities and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Three nuclear power plants, Arkansas Nuclear One, Grand Gulf Nuclear Station and Waterford 3, were built as well. NOPSI was functionally consolidated into LP&L in 1985.

In 1989, Middle South's stockholders voted to change the company's name to Entergy Corporation. The new name combines the words "enterprise," "energy," and "synergy."

During a restructuring effort begun in 1990, the company was organized along functional lines. As Harvey Couch envisioned it should, the company shares transmission lines, power sources and resources.



*Today, Entergy not only serves the community with reliable electric service, but also reaches out to the needs of the community. The Mobile Automated Learning Laboratory gives people the chance not only to learn computer skills, but also graduate with a GED.*



*Early electric distribution lines tied many rural communities in Entergy's service area together.*



# AGAINST ALL ODDS

*In its premier issue, "h" magazine, produced by Hermann Hospital, featured Larry Sam in a story about his miraculous recovery. Following is an excerpt from the story.*

story by Elise Oppmann  
photos by Robb Kendrick

It didn't take long for the doctors to assess the damage. Larry Sam had burns over 90 percent of his body. Seventy percent were third-degree, the most serious. Jeff Hollis, who had been closest to the motor, had burns covering 76 percent of his body. Butch Daniel, who had been standing next to him, was in the worst shape: 95 percent. The fourth worker injured, Glenda Broussard, was taken to Galveston's John Sealy Hospital. She would live for 17 more days.

It was still January 5.

Binell Ruffin, Sam's mother, raced to Hermann with her husband and daughter, arriving soon after Sam was admitted. If Sam made it through the first 12 hours, the doctors said, he might have a chance. They stressed the word "might."

Sam's close-knit family suddenly became closer. His mother and his stepfather, Rafel Ruffin, who had raised him since boyhood. His sister and her family. Aunts, uncles and cousins. And his Gulf States family. They all gathered to wait. And pray. By midnight, all 18 chairs in the small, mauve-toned waiting room were taken. The grieving crowd overflowed into the hallway.

It was the longest night of Ruffin's life.

For a burn victim, surviving the recovery can be tougher than surviving the accident. Until 95 percent of a patient's skin has healed or been replaced, the risk of infection runs extremely high, says Dr. David Wainwright, associate director of the Hermann Burn Center.

Dehydration and kidney failure are common problems. As the metabolism speed up to repair tissue, the body demands more oxygen, protein and calories. Respirators and feeding tubes are used for patients too weak to meet these demands.

Lying in a bed for months causes other problems. Burned skin loses its elasticity and contracts as it heals - particularly around the joints. Scar tissue begins

to form and harden. And calcium may deposit in joints, creating bony surfaces that restrict movement. Daily therapy, from the first day of the injury, is crucial in keeping the loss of flexibility to a minimum.

Then there is surgery. Every week. Burned tissue is removed and replaced with new skin. It hurts to move. It hurts to be touched. It hurts to think about what has happened. Mercifully, most burn patients never remember their days on the burn unit.

Sam survived those first critical hours. So did Daniel and Hollis. They were on the uphill road to recovery.

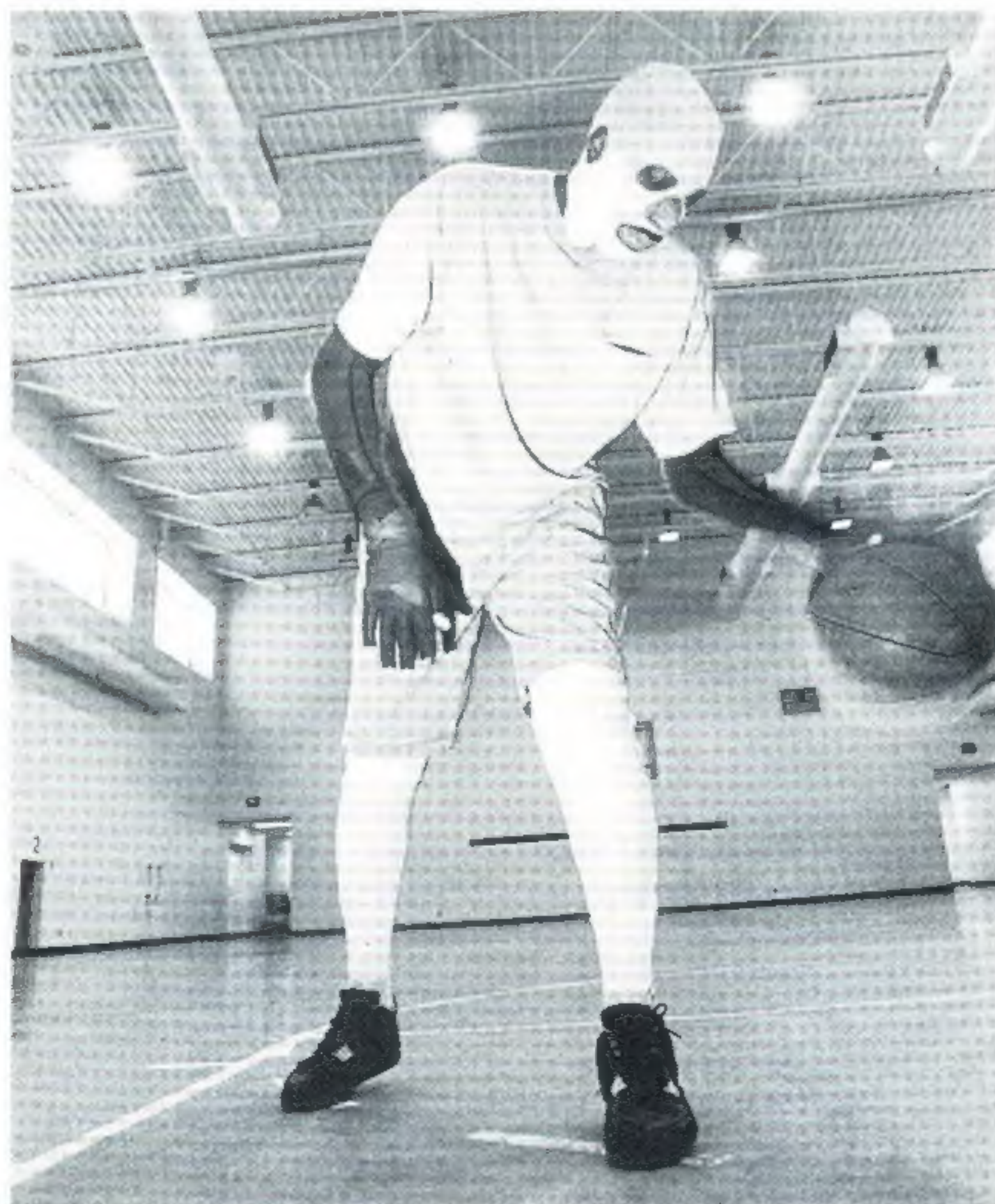
For the next six weeks, Sam's sister, Linda Boatner, kept a diary. Some of the entries read like a baby book: the first time Sam sat up, the day he walked, his first meal. Others noted surgeries and infections. Scattered throughout the little wirebound notebook are her prayers for her little brother.

"1-13-93...Larry was doing much better today than yesterday," Boatner wrote. "He was giving out a lot of orders. The nurse said every time she looks around she sees

his finger calling her to his bed. She said she had lost 5 lbs. just waiting on Larry. 2-7-93...Today I saw Larry's burned arm and chest," she wrote. "It's mostly raw flesh. They took skin from his chest to put on his arm and it took. Thank God Almighty. [The nurse] was pulling off the dead skin; it looked like a snake shedding skin. Poor Larry is suffering so much."

As is typical for burn patients, Sam was in a semi-conscious state. He was able to respond when asked simple questions, but was mostly unaware of what was happening and of what he was doing.

"Larry would fight [the nurses] when we changed his bandages," says Elizabeth Henry, R.N., unit director of the burn center. "He made our job more difficult, but it was a good sign. He wasn't



"Larry returned from his trip to the gym elated that he could still play basketball," says Elizabeth Henry, RN.



willingly turning control of his life over to us. I think his unconscious reactions were his way of saying, 'Know that I'm a person, not just body on a bed.'"

On February 10, during his fifth surgery, Sam received grafts of cloned skin. It was the first time the procedure had been performed in Houston. A piece of his undamaged skin, no bigger than a postage stamp, had been sent to a laboratory in Boston soon after the accident. The top layer, the epidermis, had been cloned and flown to Houston for grafting. Daniel and Hollis also received cloned grafts...

Sam spent 95 days in intensive care. He doesn't remember a single one. His mother was there every day. Ruffin seldom ate. She talked very little. She fell asleep at night with her rosary in hand. On April 9, her prayers were answered. Sam was moved to the rehabilitation unit. It was Good Friday.

Sam was weak. He needed two people to help him sit up in bed. He couldn't even pick up the phone. And like most burn patients, Sam had been most comfortable with his joints contracted. After a while, his skin had shortened. He couldn't raise his arms above his head. His knees wouldn't straighten and his elbows wouldn't bend...

As part of occupational therapy, Sam was fitted for his pressure garments in May. The suit breaks down and flattens scar tissue. Sam says wearing the seven-piece outfit is like having your whole body in support hose. The jacket, pants and hood—which looks like a ski mask—have zippers, but are so tight it's difficult to get them on. The same goes for the socks and gloves. And, for the outfit to be really effective, it must be worn at least 23 hours each day.

Sam felt self-conscious about his appearance in the pressure suit. The doctors said he was strong enough to have passes from the hospital, but he didn't want to go anywhere. Near Memorial Day, a close friend lured Sam out of the hospital with an invitation to see a movie. He got used to the stares and enjoyed his mobility. He just had to avoid banks and convenience stores. The mask looks suspicious.

Sam's forays out of Hermann boosted his self-confidence. And his motivation. He was released from the hospital on June 18. He and his mother moved into the nearby Marriott Guest Quarters...

Sam lost a close friend on July 22. After fighting to get better for almost six months, Butch Daniel's body gave out. He had never been released from the hospital.

Jeff Hollis, who was released from Hermann in May, continues with his outpatient therapy at St. Elizabeth. He's doing fine.

And so is Sam.

Much as he would like to move back home, he is worried that other therapists won't push him as hard as they do at Hermann. It's an important decision. With another

year of aggressive therapy, he may regain use of his arms without undergoing surgery.

The alternative isn't pleasant. Surgeons can scrape away the calcium deposits in Sam's elbows. But the resulting pain and inflammation can lead back to the same problem.

Sam's only other physical challenge is to improve the use of his hands. Heavy bands of scar tissue constrict the movement of his fingers. Wainwright is waiting to see if the surgery will be necessary. If it is, it's a minor procedure.

It's natural to assume the emotional challenges are the hardest to overcome. In Sam's case, that doesn't seem to be true. He's in good spirits and jokes around a lot.

People who know him can easily forget what has happened to him. His cheerful personality overwhelms his senses. If there is any sadness, it is buried deep within. There is no self-pity.

Strangers will stop and stare when they see Sam in his mask. A young boy in a department store saw him recently and said, "Look, Mommy! It's a Ninja warrior!" Sam laughed. "I don't mind for people to look," he says. "They're just curious, I guess. Most of them probably wonder what I'm hiding with the hood."

He's not hiding. Under the mask, Sam is a handsome man. His skin tone is lighter than it used to be and he has some heavy scarring on his neck, but his face was not badly damaged by the fire. His hair had grown back and he is sporting a moustache. Sam will continue to wear the pressure garment until all of the scar tissue matures. No one is quite sure how long that will be. Perhaps a year or longer. African-Americans, because of the skin complexity, are more prone to scarring than people with lighter skin tones...

Nurses from the Hermann Burn Center stop Sam when they see him in the hospital. He doesn't remember them. But they will never forget Sam. With tears in their eyes, they tell him how happy they are to see him doing so well. Others can only hug him.

Sam's life has changed. But in some ways, it is for the better. He has seen countless friends, relatives, and strangers rally to save his life. And now they share his life. "I know I wouldn't have come this far so soon without my mom pushing me," Sam says. "From the start, I told myself I had to make it for her sake. It's been tough. It still is some days. But the doctors, nurses and therapists are really good. And my friends and GSU family have been very supportive.

"I'm going to get on with my life. I'm not going to let what happened to me get in my way. Life is too short to waste time dwelling on the past. I'm looking forward to what's coming next."

*Excerpted from the story "Against All Odds," which appeared in the Fall 1993 issue of "h", the magazine of Hermann Hospital.*



*In August, Sam returned to Sabine Station for the first time since the accident. Here he rejoins co-workers (left to right) Bonnie Duval, Melvin Head, Robert Hill and Ricky Zirlott.*



# Entergy area features New Orleans, Monroe

*Of Entergy's 11,777 employees, approximately 5,000 work in Louisiana. Most are concentrated in the area of greater New Orleans, Entergy's headquarters. But a sizable number also work in north Louisiana where Entergy's service area stretches across most of the top of the state.*

by  
Harry Wadsworth

Since its founding by the French in 1718, New Orleans has been a center for international trade and commerce. Its location on the Mississippi River, upstream from the Gulf of Mexico, provides the region with abundant natural resources and water access to mid-America and the major ports of the world.

As a former colony of both the French and Spanish, "the city that care forgot" has a unique and colorful past. From the historic French Quarter and tawdry Bourbon Street to the Superdome and New Orleans Saints football to the stately oaks lining St. Charles Avenue and its mansions, New Orleans is one of the more unique cities in the world. Tourists come by the thousands to dine in famous restaurants, listen to jazz, and tour antebellum plantations.

Residents have found that New Orleans with a metro population of 1.2 million ranks favorably as an affordable city in which to live. The second quarter 1993 cost-of-living index relative to the national average (100.0) showed housing at 84.6; grocery, 101.7; utilities 118.1; and health care, 95.0, with all items having an index of 96.0. The median price for a 2,000 square-foot, single-family home is \$90,900.

For years New Orleans' economy has relied on port-related industries, oil and natural gas, tourism, and shipbuilding. But when oil and gas slumped 10 years ago, tourism had to step forward and defend New Orleans' economy. Now a diversified business city is making a comeback.

Leading the pack are the defense and shipbuilding industries with contracts totaling more than \$3 billion. Also, expansions at the Port of New Orleans and the New Orleans International Airport will help the city attract new Latin American markets.

Estimates show sports, gaming, and entertainment accounting for 14,000 new jobs in the near future. Construction will soon begin on two projects: an \$84 million sports arena next to the Superdome and the world's largest casino, adjacent to the river. The arena will hopefully entice professional basketball and hockey franchises, while also being the home for Tulane University basketball, concerts, and prize fights.

New Orleans has also become a leader in environmental technology. Projects range from restoring precious wetlands to the research accompanied with the breeding of endangered animals. Families enjoy the Audubon Zoo, ranked among the country's best, and the Aquarium of the Americas, which opened three years ago on the riverfront.







*Opposite page, New Orleans skyline. Left, Jackson Square in the French Quarter. Below, The Twin Cities of Monroe and West Monroe on the banks of the Ouachita River. Bottom, Delta Air Lines began business in the 1920s as a crop duster service in Northeast Louisiana.*

Ten universities and colleges, including a medical, dental, and two law schools, attract students from all over the country. Orleans and Jefferson parishes alone have 350 public and private schools, 32 of which have been singled out by the White House for academic achievement.

In north Louisiana, many of Entergy's employees work in the twin-city area of Monroe and West Monroe, two communities with a population of 70,000. Two of America's well-known companies have their roots in Monroe. Coca-Cola expanded its business from Monroe in the early 1900s. And in the 1920's, Delta Air Lines got its start as a crop-dusting service. Delta continues to hold its annual stockholders meeting in Monroe.

The area believes one of its strengths is in its comparison to big cities. One brochure brags "forget about too many people in too small a space." Indeed, no one worries about overcrowding in the Monroe area. There's plenty of room to expand. And that's happening. This year construction activity is up 56 percent.

A major campaign is also under way to both recruit additional industry and encourage local plant expansion. Riverland International, a paper products manufacturer, is the largest private company employing nearly 1,700. General Motors, State Farm Insurance, Century Telephone, Bancroft Bag, and Entergy are other major employers.

Northeast Louisiana is also recognized as a regional medical center anchored by four hospitals, which serve as the medical hub for 450,000 persons in a 15-parish area.

The cost-of-living index relative to the national average (100.0) for second quarter 1993 showed housing at 84.3; grocery, 97.4; utilities 156.9; and health care, 93.0, with all items having an index of 102.0. *(Electric rates are competitive in north Louisiana. But because of the amount of air-conditioning used, the number of humidity days, and the number of total-electric homes in the area, usage rates are higher in KWH per customer, which is reflected in utility bills.)*

Academically, over 10,000 students attend Northeast Louisiana State University in Monroe. NLU has earned national accreditation in 73 disciplines. Its School of Construction was the first in the nation to be accredited; its Pharmacy program the fifth largest nationally. The Monroe-West Monroe area also offers an abundance of public, private, and parochial schools.

Thirty miles to the west on Interstate 20 is Ruston, where Louisiana Tech University is known for its Engineering program. An additional five miles brings one to Grambling, Louisiana, home of Grambling State University where coach Eddie Robinson has led the Tigers to more wins in college football than any other coach in history.



Not far from the Mississippi River, the area is prime agricultural land. Cotton is number one followed by soybeans, rice, grain, sorghum, and sweet potatoes. Other prime-time activities include hunting, fishing, boating, camping, and hiking.

So whether it's the busyness of big-city New Orleans or the wide-open spaces of Monroe--West Monroe, the Entergy System serves both kinds of customers as it strives to become a leader in the electric energy industry.



# Gulf States helps Boy Scouts earn merit



by Mark Viguet

The Beaumont-area Three Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America, with the help of GSU, can now offer its members the opportunity to earn an electricity merit badge. The scouts earn merit badges by demonstrating knowledge and proficiency in areas like community service, first aid, swimming, citizenship and now, electricity.

Lora Davis, supervisor-customer services, Beaumont, and Les Jones, customer information coordinator, Beaumont, worked to get the program started.

"We found out that other utilities have developed electricity merit badge programs," Jones says. "We thought this would be a good opportunity to teach young people about electricity and electrical safety, so we contacted the local Three Rivers Council, which covers 12 counties. We met with them and found out how to create a program for the scouts in our area."

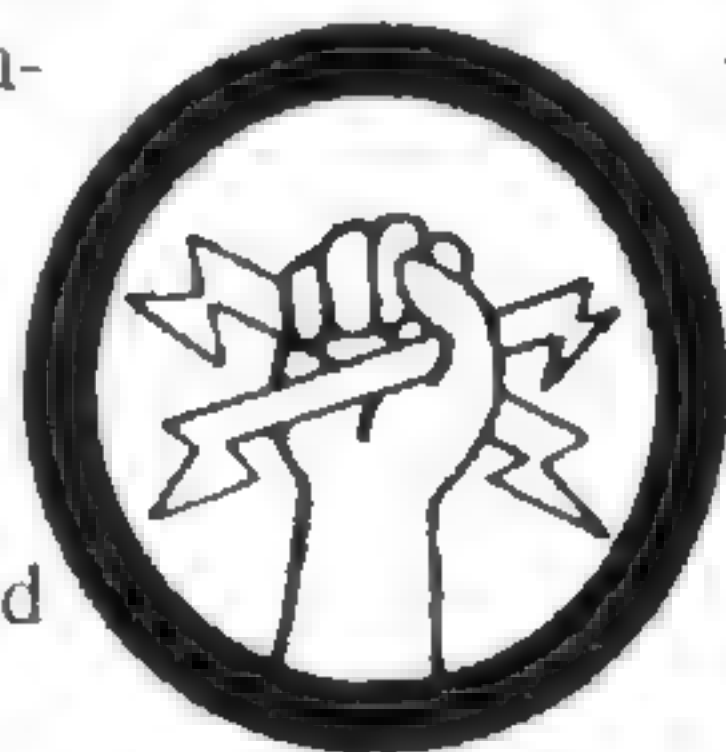
Davis and Jones learned that the national Boy Scouts organization has an electricity merit badge, but it

had never been offered throughout the entire Three Rivers Council region. With that information in hand, Jones designed a merit badge program and workbook. The program consists of four, two-hour hands-on sessions conducted by Jones and Bobby Glach, system relay foreman, Beaumont, at the Relay Lab in the Liberty-Pearl building. Jones and Glach, who is also a merit badge counselor for the scouts, recently completed a trial-run of the program with Glach's scouts, Troop 9 from Lumberton.

In addition to touring GSU's Energy Control Center and the Edison Plaza Museum, scouts who are on their way to earning electricity merit badges will learn to read meters and calculate bills; draw floor plans showing outlets, fuses and breakers; explain why fuses blow or a breaker trips; and demonstrate they can change a fuse and reset a circuit breaker. They will also learn electrical terms and the difference between alternating and direct current.

"The scouts will be required to demonstrate their understanding of electricity by rigging up simple devices. Also, they will learn to fix bad electrical cords on appliances and plugs," Jones says. "We stress safety in each of the four sessions. Safety is definitely a big part of the program."

Jones says 11 other troops in Southeast Texas have contacted GSU about presenting the program to their scouts.





# Lamar University tips hat to GSU

by Scott Harper

Lamar University in Beaumont recently said "thanks" to Gulf States for its years of assistance with summer institutes for area school teachers. Joe Donnelly, CEO, chairman and president, was presented a plaque of appreciation by Lamar University President Dr. Rex Cottle.

"We were sending teachers to a Science Symposium at the University of Texas and wanted to do something similar locally," says Jo Ann Smith, manager-community affairs. "We thought we could try it at Lamar and they were very open to the idea."

That was more than a decade ago. Since that time, GSU has added summer electrical institutes at Louisiana State University and Southern University in Baton Rouge, University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette, McNeese University in Lake Charles and Sam Houston State University in Huntsville.

The workshops last one to two



*Lamar University President Dr. Rex Cottle presents GSU Chairman and CEO Joe Donnelly with a plaque of appreciation for summer electrical institutes.*

days and teach participants lessons about electricity. Teachers attending the workshop get hands-on experience through various exercises and experiments they can bring back to their own classroom.

"We've received many positive comments from teachers who have attended the institutes and workshops and carried what they learned over into their class," says Smith. "The teachers say the information they receive is beneficial for their students."

According to Smith, the curriculum for the institutes has been adjusted to fall more in line with former President Bush's Education 2000 goals. The institutes now focus more on math, science and the environment and how those areas relate to electricity.

"This has been a very worthwhile program for us to be involved in," says Smith.

## RBS Nuclear Training programs receive accreditation renewal

Six of the 12 nuclear training programs at the River Bend Branch of the National Academy for Nuclear Training have received accreditation renewal from the academy's accrediting board in Atlanta, according to John McGaha, GSU vice president, River Bend. The national academy is the training arm of the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations. Program accreditations are renewed on a four-year cycle, six programs at a time.

McGaha said the board's action reflects the institute's confidence in the professionalism and adequacy of training programs at River Bend. The accreditation is similar to the accreditation process at colleges

and universities.

The academy's accrediting board is composed of 18 to 20 members from the nuclear power industry, non-nuclear industries, academic experts from technical fields, and a member nominated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

It takes years for all 12 training programs to be accredited, which is a requirement before a utility's program can become a branch of the academy. Nuclear operators at the plant must requalify their certification every six weeks to work in the control room, ensuring their familiarity with the plant's systems and procedures.

Accreditation is based on a one-week visit to the nuclear site by an accreditation team, and on consideration of the team's report and a presentation by the utility before a meeting of the full board in Atlanta. Training programs renewed were electrical, mechanical, and instrumentation and control maintenance; radiation protection; chemistry; and technical support.



# Southeast Texans visit the Far East

by Scott Harper

What do you consider a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity? A chance to spend the day with the President of the United States? Maybe a trip into outer space on a space shuttle mission? What about an expense-paid trip to a another country where you will be treated as royalty?

Paula Cyr, general attorney, Beaumont, and Doug McCormick, coordinator-Texas communications, Beaumont, recently had the opportunity to do just that when they were selected to represent the Rotary Club, their state and country in the Rotary International Group Study Exchange Program.

Cyr and McCormick, along with three other Texans, spent five weeks in Japan meeting business and government leaders, community and city officials, and living in the homes of Japanese families.

"This program is designed as a business and cultural exchange to foster better understanding between different countries around the world," says McCormick.

Cyr and McCormick had to go through an intense interview process and were two of four selected out of 40 to 50 contenders. "The interview process was to help the selection committee pick people who they feel would be good ambassadors of Southeast Texas and America," says Cyr.

Both were surprised and extremely pleased they were selected. "When they called Paula's name, I figured she would be the only one from GSU," says McCormick. "I really didn't think I would be picked. We felt like it was such a long shot for both of us," adds Cyr.

Following their selection came a thorough training period. Four Saturdays were filled with extensive training on the state of Texas. "We studied about Texas history, social systems, educational systems, business practices, judicial systems, religion. We went over just about everything there was in Texas," says McCormick.

Training also included a 5-day stint in Houston for Berlitz Language



L to R, Team members Beverly Hickman, Vicki Schmidt, Leon Hallman, Cyr and McCormick (seated) give Japanese Rotarians their rendition of "Deep In The Heart Of Texas" at a farewell dinner in Joetsu.

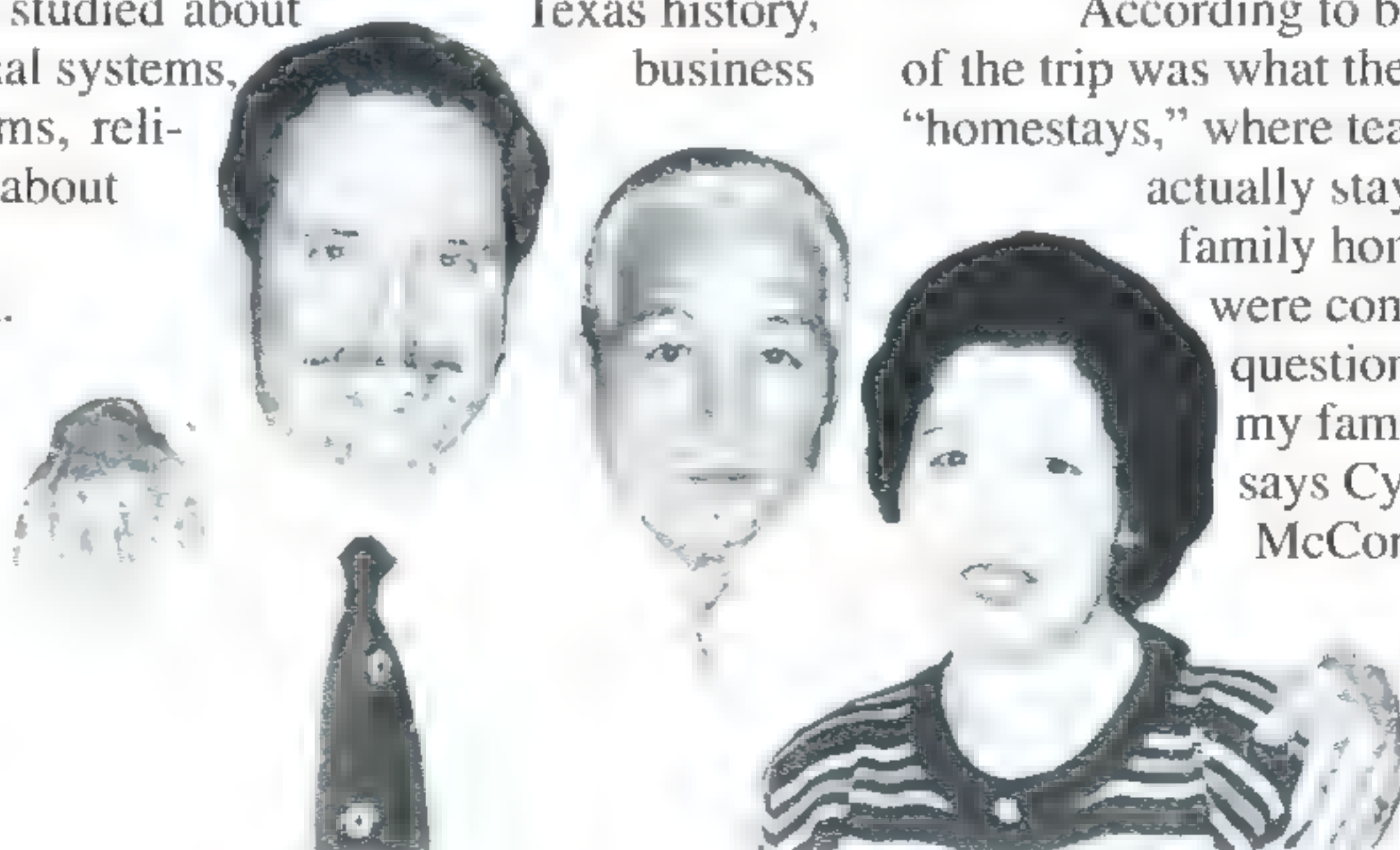
Training. "This was an emersion program that covered primarily the Japanese language but also touched on Japanese culture. It was very helpful," says Cyr.

Both agreed the training served a cohesive purpose as well for the future Far East travellers. "It allowed us to board the plane as good friends," says McCormick.

Once in Japan, the two embarked on a rigid five-week tour of the land of the rising sun. Major cities visited north of Tokyo included Tatebayshi, Isesaki City, Takasaki, Nagaoka, Joetsu, Sado Island, Niigata City and finally Tokyo. While in each city, daily outings allowed them to see the local suburbs and countryside.

To their Asian audiences, McCormick and Cyr became international relations experts in describing the American and Texas way of life and business, speaking at Rotary club meetings and meeting Japanese entrepreneurs.

According to both, the best part of the trip was what they called "homestays," where team members would actually stay in a Japanese family home. "The families were constantly asking me questions about my life, my family, and my job," says Cyr. McCormick joins in,



McCormick with his second host family the Saitos.



"They also wanted to know what our idea of Japan was before we came over."

Both say Japanese people's impression of America is positive with the exception of an awareness of crime, recently heightened by the tragic death of a Japanese exchange student in Baton Rouge who was mistaken for a burglar and shot.

"One of my host families had a 17-year-old daughter who wanted to come to America and her father wouldn't let her because of the violence in America. I told her father that in really big cities like Los Angeles and New York there were problems but in most of the country, it's not as bad as it seems," says Cyr. After talking with Cyr, the father changed his mind about letting his daughter come to the United States.

One of the more interesting businesses the duo visited was a Japanese utility, Tohoku Electric, which boasts over 6 million customers. "It was amazing how we paralleled their utility company," says Cyr. "We talked about a lot of topics from customer accounting to T&D," adds McCormick.

One activity that was not on the agenda was an earthquake. "It was about 1:00 a.m. and I heard a door start squeaking. Then I noticed a light fixture swinging and things on the TV started moving. I then realized this was an earthquake and thought, 'What do I do?' I decided to do what my host family did and they slept right through it!" laughs McCormick.



Cyr (right) with host family members Yoko Seito (left) and daughter Mika Seito, who plans on visiting the United States, thanks to a conversation between her father and Cyr that alleviated some of his concern about crime in America.



The team, accompanied by a Japanese interpreter (left), visits with the president (seated) of a company in Niigata that makes components for anti-lock braking systems for Ford and other U.S. automobile manufacturers as well as bobbins for sewing machines.

prepared in teriyaki sauce) were favorite menu selections.

McCormick seemed to have a problem adapting to the Japanese culture of removing one's shoes when entering a home and certain businesses. "Several times I just completely forgot and walked on in," says McCormick. "One time, I walked into a hospital, removed my shoes, and put on a pair of slippers that everyone was supposed to wear. Halfway into the hospital I realized I had actually put on somebody else's shoes!"

For Cyr, who lived in Japan in her early childhood, the trip was an opportunity to visit family she had not seen in 33 years. When McCormick and the other team members left for the U.S., Cyr headed for Yokohama to see aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and her 84-year-old grandmother. "She was the only grandparent I ever knew," says Cyr. "We had a really good time."

"This was a great opportunity. I learned a lot and had a wonderful experience," says Cyr. "The hospitality in Japan was simply great."

McCormick agrees, "The Japanese people went out of their way to make sure we felt welcome, comfortable and very special. It was five weeks we will never forget."

The Japanese cuisine was a culture shock both never really got used to. After a few weeks of dining on raw or partially cooked squid, octopus, eel, sea urchins, jelly fish tentacles and the ever popular sushi, McCormick and Cyr became frequently acquainted with rice and soup. However, Japanese dishes like shabu shabu (beef boiled in water and sake) and sukiyaki (beef



# NEWS BRIEFS

## LSU, SU students get hook-up help at Essen Lane

story and photo by Pris Gallagher

"First impressions last a lifetime," or so the saying goes. And that's the idea behind a special welcoming of Louisiana State University and Southern University students to the Customer Center at Essen Lane.

A quick look at annual records of such things as telephone calls, requests for new service and customer traffic in the center clearly indicates that a two-week period in August is by far the busiest time of year. That period coincides with the annual influx of college students, some flanked by anxious parents, others alone to struggle through the task of obtaining electric and gas service for the first

time.

"A young customer's first experience with our company should be a positive one," said Sheila Sorrell, section head, Accounting. "We want them to feel welcome, to know we appreciate their business and they are important to us."

A large welcoming banner, visible from the busy Essen Lane thoroughfare, welcomes students from both universities. "It provides an added plus of visibility in a college town," added Sorrell.

Students entering the Customer Center are



LSU and Southern University students were greeted by this banner at Essen Lane when they came to sign up for new service.

greeted by customer representatives, many wearing shirts from one of the two universities. A rented popcorn machine provides a continuous supply of popcorn throughout the day, another added touch for students who have been trudging through the horrors of registration, moving and adjusting to life away from home.

The project is in its fourth year and involves not only students, but landlords as well. Early in the month, letters are sent to all the apartment complexes in the city announcing the special promotion. Accompanying the letter is a flyer that is posted at the apartments, or duplicated and handed out to new tenants. The flyers

point out the longer working hours especially designed to help students, as well as what information is required when applying for service.

"Apartment managers are as pleased with the project as the students are," commented Sorrell.

"We've had positive feedback since many managers are directly involved with helping their tenants get electric service."

The plus for the company is the ability to handle the huge number of service requests more efficiently, plus knowing that many new customers left the Customer Center with positive feelings about a company that cares.

## Payroll department provides tax update

The Social Security Tax (FICA) is comprised of two parts, OASDI and Medicare. In 1994 the combined rate of these parts will remain at 7.65 percent, but the wage bases are different. The wage base for OASDI will be \$60,600 up from \$57,600, and the tax rate will be 6.2 percent. The wage base for Medicare will be all earnings up from \$135,000, and the tax rate will be 1.45 percent.

The following table shows the maximum tax assessment.

TYPE	WAGE BASE\$	RATE %	MAX TAX
OASDI	\$60,600	6.2	\$3,757.20
Medicare	ALL	1.45	

## 8,500 in 10 years?

In the last issue of **Plain Talks**, the story "Street speaks at Edison Museum in Canada" ran and included some facts about the Edison Plaza Museum in Beaumont. One fact stated the museum has had more

than 8,500 visitors in its 10-year existence.

In actuality, the museum has welcomed over 64,000 people over the last 10 years. The museum sees roughly 8,500 people annually.



# MAILBOX



Scott Harper



Carolyn Motl

## Reaching out

"Industries for the Blind and Visually Impaired (IBVI) would like to thank you and your staff for providing employment opportunities for persons that are blind and visually impaired," writes the IBVI marketing analyst to **Malcolm Williams**, manager-business development, Beaumont. "Working with **Carolyn Motl**, we have identified a specific packaging service that we will provide to GSU at competitive prices. We thank GSU for reaching out and providing employment through IBVI. We look forward to working with Ms. Motl in the future."

Motl is an economic development research analyst in Beaumont.

## Good natured and courteous

"This is a note of thanks to the members of the **GSU repair crews** who spent their Saturday night working to restore service

to families on Oak Hills Parkway," writes the DiMario family from Baton Rouge. "The first GSU truck arrived in our driveway shortly after we lost electricity and the repairmen started working immediately. They remained good-natured and courteous, even after seeing the extent of the damage caused by a lightning storm and knowing the work ahead. We truly appreciate the crews that helped to restore service to our family."

## Professional and friendly

"This letter is my way of expressing to you our appreciation for the professional and friendly manner in which **Paula Colmer** handled her duties with regards to the installation of electrical service on our property in Montgomery, Texas," writes Landrum and Lynn Gay of Houston to GSU's Conroe office. "My wife and I felt it was important to let you

know that her friendly and professional manner was appreciated as well as the courteous way in which she answered all of our questions."

Colmer is a sr. customer service representative in Conroe.

## Deep appreciation

"The board of directors and staff of the Calcasieu Area Agency on Aging join me in expressing deep appreciation to you and the many employees of the GSU Lake Charles Division, whose generous contributions to Project CARE make life easier for many frail elderly served by this agency," writes the CAAA's executive director to GSU's **Clyde Mitchell**. "It is only through your selfless giving that we are able to provide energy assistance essential to the health and welfare of those whose meager incomes provide so little for the necessities of life, much less its comforts. The dollars you contribute, in peak seasons of extreme heat or cold, very often give life. Again, many thanks and God bless!"

Mitchell is a customer affairs coordinator in Lake Charles.

## Enthusiastic and genuinely interested

"I recently had a visitor from Alexandria, Virginia who had read about the Edison Plaza Museum and wanted to visit it while he was here," writes James Brewer of Groves to GSU's **Leslie D. Cobb**, vice president and secretary. "We were both greatly impressed by the neatness and completeness of the museum. We were impressed even more by the friendliness and knowledge of the curator, **Jill Street**. I have been to a lot of museums but have never met a curator or

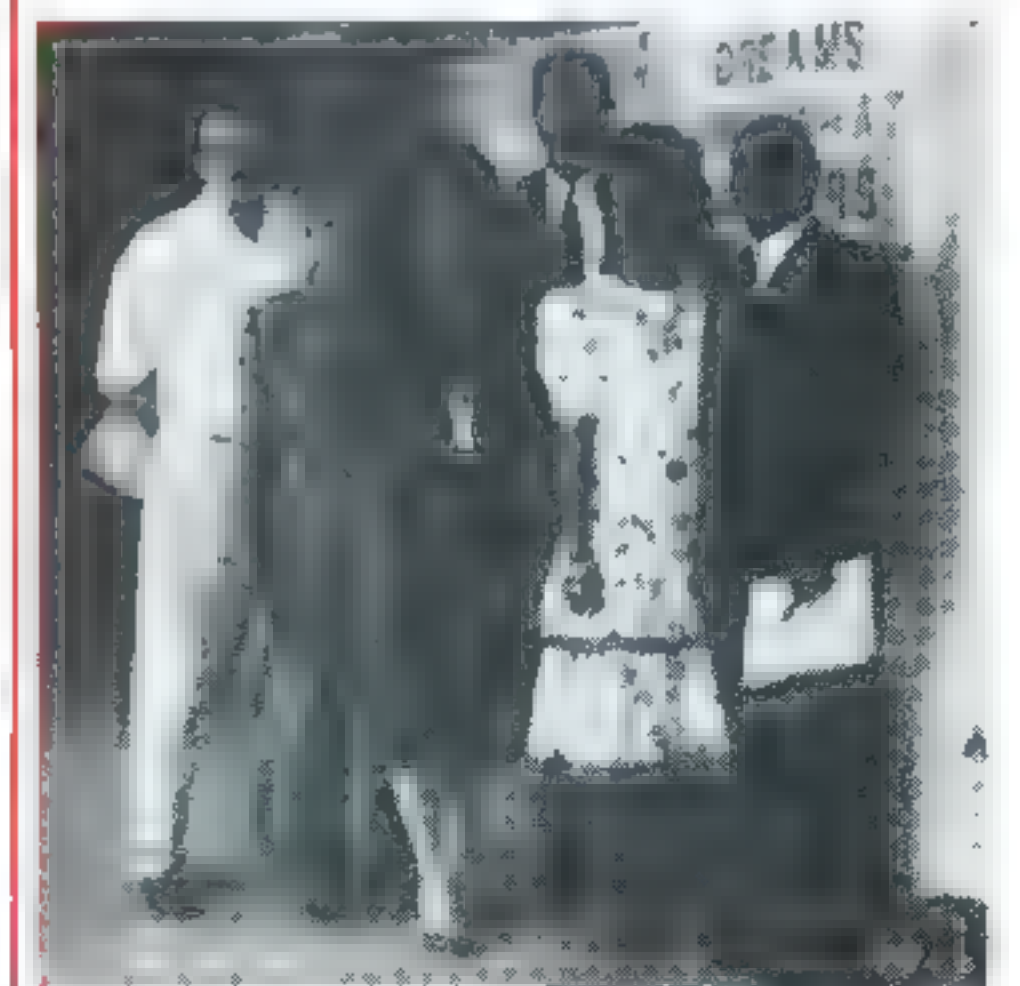
guide who was as enthusiastic and genuinely interested in her work as this nice lady. Edison was a brilliant man...I am proud that we have a museum in our area honoring this great man."

Street is curator of the Edison Plaza Museum in Beaumont.

## Finest ambassadors

"Enclosed is a snapshot of six of GSU's finest ambassadors of goodwill, taken following an inspiring program for our Dunbar Elementary School third grade students who will be moving on to another school in fourth grade," writes Dunbar Principal **Edna Joseph** and Counselor **Mamie LeBlanc**, to **Joseph Donnelly**, GSU chairman, president and chief executive officer. "They are, from left to right, **John Damond**, **Khaleelah Muhammad**, **Rhoda Carmon**, **Luther Martin**, **Kim Grant** and **James Perry** (see photo below). These minority volunteers kept the students anxiously anticipating the possible business careers they may choose to pursue in the 21st century. It is this kind of motivation our children need."

Damond is a senior draftsman. Muhammad is a departmental clerk. Carmon is a purchasing agent II. Martin is a senior planning engineer. Grant is a systems analyst. Perry is a staff accountant I. All the volunteers work in Beaumont.





# SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

July - December

# 1993

## 40 YEARS

**Dallas J. Boullion**  
Electric T&D  
Dayton  
**Betty G. Fontana**  
Financial Services  
Beaumont  
**Jimmie L. Grimes**  
Power Supply  
Beaumont  
**Marie A. Vavasseur**  
Division Accounting  
Port Allen

## 30 YEARS

**Jerry F. Ball**  
Gas Department  
Baton Rouge  
**H. F. Eickenhorst**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe  
**Kathleen M. Fuller**  
Division Operations  
Port Arthur  
**Ethel E. Glenn**  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont  
**Joe Arch Hopkins**  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont  
**Calvin J. Jaetzold**  
Human Resources  
Lake Charles  
**Benny G. Kite**  
Electric T&D  
Cleveland  
**Joseph R. Mayfield**  
Gas Department  
Baton Rouge  
**Ben Parks Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont  
**Sandra G. Rogers**  
Accounting Services  
Beaumont

## 20 YEARS

**Van A. Addison**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge

**Joseph E. Albert**  
RBNG Plant Operations  
River Bend  
**J. D. Alexander**  
Electric T&D  
Trinity  
**Louis E. Bordelon**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Edgar L. Burwick**  
Plant Production  
Lewis Creek  
**Amery J. Champagne**  
Executive Department  
Beaumont  
**Michael W. Cormier**  
Gas Department  
Baton Rouge  
**Wallace M. Day**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**George K. Dubose**  
Accounting Services  
Beaumont  
**Francis L. Faulk**  
Electric T&D  
Lafayette  
**Gary B. Fredieu**  
Fleet Administration  
Beaumont  
**Louis W. Gautreaux**  
Electric T&D  
Sulphur  
**Carl D. Gibbins Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont  
**Thomas I. Gore**  
Fleet Administration  
Lake Charles  
**Tommie E. Haley**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe  
**Myrna L. Hargrove**  
Division Accounting  
Port Allen  
**Mary A. Hensley**  
Division Accounting  
Conroe  
**Willie J. Hoffart**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe  
**John E. Holmes**  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station  
**Michael L. Jones**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont  
**Raymond Smiles Jr.**  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station

**Lonnie J. Kettl**  
Plant Production  
River Bend  
**Thomas H. Koepke**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe  
**Marlene S. Laird**  
Computer Applications  
Beaumont  
**Hellen B. Malvo**  
Accounting Services  
Beaumont  
**John L. McNabb**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Terry L. Melancon**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Robert C. Newman**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Oddie L. Powell Jr.**  
Plant Production  
Nelson Coal  
**William J. Reed Jr.**  
Power Interconnections  
Beaumont  
**Ella H. Reed**  
Human Resources  
Beaumont  
**Georgia D. Rice**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Mary D. Sam**  
Accounting Services  
Beaumont  
**Herman E. Snoe**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe  
**Rodney L. Sparks**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**George M. Sterba**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Lloyd K. Stuart**  
Electric T&D  
The Woodlands  
**Joseph M. Veillon**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles  
**Warren W. Watson**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe  
**Elisha A. Wattly**  
Plant Production  
Nelson Station  
**William T. Weatherford Jr.**  
Accounting Services  
Beaumont

**Henry C. Welch Jr.**  
Plant Production  
Sabine Station  
**Willie Williams Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Cherryl G. Wilson**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**James R. Zeringue**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**Erwin J. Zoch**  
RBNG Engrg. & Admin.  
River Bend

## 10 YEARS

**Nathan E. Ashworth**  
Plant Production  
Sabine Station  
**Kim A. Bailleaux**  
General Services  
Beaumont  
**James C. Barton**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe  
**Russell L. Beauchamp**  
RBNG Plant Operations  
River Bend  
**Kenneth K. Beck**  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station  
**Johnal Bernard II**  
Design Engineering  
Beaumont  
**Sharon S. Borel**  
Corporate Services  
Beaumont  
**Ricky J. Bravata**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge  
**James D. Caddy**  
Plant Production  
River Bend  
**Georgetta L. Calhoun**  
Accounting Services  
Beaumont  
**Jeffrey L. Cambre**  
Plant Production  
Louisiana Station  
**Timothy G. Casey**  
Plant Production  
Lewis Creek  
**Joseph A. Clark**  
RBNG Plant Operation  
River Bend  
**William C. Copeland Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont



**Michael O. Creel**  
Gas Department  
Baton Rouge  
**John M. Dalton**  
Plant Production  
Lewis Creek  
**Sharon A. Davis**  
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River Bend  
**Hurshall M. Talley**  
Plant Production  
River Bend



## Promotions from July 1 - October 31, 1993

**Achord, Darrell W.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman 4/C, Electric T&D (2).

**Aime, Tommy J.**, Willow Glen, to test technician 2/C, Plant Production (1).

**Allen, John R.**, Denham Springs, to district supervisor, Electric T&D (26).

**Allen, Robert B.**, Baton Rouge, to apprentice-Line & Service Departments, Electric T&D (2).

**Andre, Barry L.**, Port Allen, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (6).

**Anthony, Katrina W.**, River Bend, to nuclear chemistry technician 1/C, Plant Production (6mos.).

**Arnold, Kerney A.**, Baton Rouge, to apprentice-Line & Service Departments, Electric T&D (1).

**Bailey, Patricia A.**, Beaumont, to senior information analyst, Computer Applications (30).

**Bare, Robert G.**, St. Francisville, to senior technical specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group (4).

**Barnard, Kenneth W.**, Beaumont, to Relayman 3/C, Electric T&D (5).

**Bean, Timmy L.**, Port Arthur, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (9).

**Bello, Michael A.**, Port Allen, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (9).

**Benton, James Jr.**, Port Arthur, to substation mechanic 1/C, Electric T&D (15).

**Bergeron, Barry M.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (10).

**Berteau, Mark S.**, Baton Rouge, to serviceman 1/C, Electric T&D (12).

**Blackwelder, Earl S.**, Lake Charles, to lineman 3/C, Electric T&D (3).

**Brewer, Timothy D.**, Baton Rouge, to apprentice-Gas Department, Gas Department (3).

**Broussard, Reid J.**, Lafayette, to substation mechanic 1/C, Electric T&D (10).

**Brown, Girvan W.**, Conroe, to lineman 4/C, Electric T&D (3).

**Buller, Matthew P.**, St. Francisville, to senior technical specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group (15).

**Cacioppo, Leonard J. Jr.**, Baton Rouge, to substation mechanic 3/C, Electric T&D (2).

**Caruso, Robert C.**, Port Allen, to apprentice-Line & Service Departments, Electric T&D (1).

**Castille, Jody C.**, Woodlands, to engineer-level II, Electric T&D (2).

**Chaney, David B.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman 4/C, Electric T&D (8).

**Citizen, Joseph L.**, Nelson Station, to equipment operator, Plant Production (1).

**Clements, Donald M.**, Beaumont, to sr. vice president-external affairs, Executive (15).

**Clifton, Michael L.**, Conroe, to substation mechanic 1/C, Electric T&D (3).

**Coats, Linda A.**, River Bend, to radiation protection technician, Plant Production (7).

**Comeaux, John C.**, Baton Rouge, to substation mechanic 3/C, Electric T&D (2).

**Covey, Hal M.**, Beaumont, to senior mechanical engineer, Design Engineering (7).

**Curcio, Paul D.**, St. Francisville, to senior planning & scheduling specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group (2).

**Day, John A.**, St. Francisville, to systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group (3).

**Deviller, Byron P.**, Baton Rouge, to apprentice-Line & Service Departments, Electric T&D (2).

**Draper, Aaron G.**, Beaumont, to staff accountant I, Accounting Services (3).

**Duhon, Steve R.**, Nelson Coal, to electrician 1/C, Plant Production (2).

**Edwards, Bobby J.**, Conroe, to lineman 3/C, Electric T&D (9).

**Fondon, John W.**, Dayton, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (1).

**Fuselier, Drew H.**, Lake Charles, to test technician 1/C, Plant Production (8).

**Hale, Kelly M.**, Beaumont, to staff auditor I, Audit Services (2).

**Hebert, John B.**, Baton Rouge, to substation mechanic 1/C, Electric T&D (13).

**Hester, Sandra T.**, Beaumont, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting (9).

**Heubach, Carl E.**, Beaumont, to director-control center services, Energy Resources (19).

**Holcomb, Floyd M.**, Beaumont, to lineman 3/C, Electric T&D (4).

**Holland, Terrell S. Jr.**, Beaumont, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (3).

**Hopkins, Bradley S.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman 4/C, Electric T&D (2).



**Hornsby, Amanda C.**, Nelson Station, to equipment operator, Plant Production (14).

**Israel, Benjamin L.**, Louisiana Station, to repairman 2/C, Steam Products (2).

**Jarreau, Dennis W.**, River Bend, to repairman 2/C, Plant Production (4).

**Johnson, Cynthia G.**, Winnie, to customer contact representative, Division Accounting (5).

**Jones, Ronald W.**, Beaumont, to senior engineering assistant, Electric T&D (15).

**Jones, William M.**, Gonzales, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (1).

**Journee, Eddie J. Jr.**, Baton Rouge, to meter reader, Division Accounting (2).

**Khalifeh, Amar A.**, Beaumont, to forecasting analyst, Strategic Planning (3).

**Lawrence, Evelyn R.**, Beaumont, to sr. employee relations specialist, Human Resources (27).

**Maines, Craig S.**, Beaumont, to engineer-level II, Electric T&D (1).

**Martin, Tommy L. Jr.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (11).

**McElwee, Barry S.**, Beaumont, to computer operator, Computer Applications (2).

**Metoyer, Russell E.**, Nelson Station, to equipment operator, Plant Production (3).

**Meyers, Joseph L.**, Port Allen, to apprentice-Line & Service Departments, Electric T&D (1).

**Miller, Alan A.**, Silsbee, to apprentice-Line & Service Departments, Electric T&D (2).

**Millet, Christopher T.**, Denham Springs, to helper, Electric T&D (1).

**Moffett, Barry J.**, Baton Rouge, to automotive technician 1/C, Fleet Administration (8).

**O'Brien Michael W.**, St. Francisville, to senior technical specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group (8).

**Olson, Carl A.**, Beaumont, to senior planning engineer, Engineering Services (6).

**Pitts, Kenneth W.**, Baton Rouge, to pipeman 2/C, Gas Department (8).

**Porter, Joe R.**, River Bend, to radiation protection technician 2/C, Plant Production (1).

**Powell, Raymon D.**, Beaumont, to director-relay & communications engineering, Engineering & Technical Services-Relay (11).

**Prejean, Gregory D.**, Zachary, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (11).

**Putnam, Rex G.**, St. Francisville, to senior systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group (1).

**Reichardt, Todd A.**, St. Francisville, to nuclear engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group (3).

**Richard, Craig A.**, Port Arthur, to serviceman 3/C, Electric T&D (13).

**Roberts, Jeffrey T.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman 4/C, Electric T&D (2).

**Rogers, Rondel, D.**, Woodlands, to lineman 2/C, Electric T&D (3).

**Rousseau, Russell P.**, Denham Springs, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (12).

**Rustaey, Abid**, St. Francisville, to nuclear engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group (2).

**Schandorff, Cleland H.**, Conroe, to meterman 2/C, Electric T&D (1).

**Schexnaider, Neil P.**, Lafayette, to apprentice, Electric T&D (1).

**Sells, John D. Jr.**, Beaumont, to garage mechanic 2/C, Fleet Administration (10).

**Selvy, David W.**, Huntsville, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (8).

**Smith, James M.**, Beaumont, to staff accountant II, Accounting Services (8).

**Spagnoletti, Joseph III**, Conroe, to communication serviceman 1/C, Electric T&D (4).

**Spencer, Carol F.**, Beaumont, to senior systems analyst, Computer Applications (7).

**Spillman, Nancy M.**, St.

Francisville, to inventory analyst, River Bend Nuclear Group (7).

**Sulzer, Gerald M.**, Beaumont, to engineer-T&D level II, Electric T&D (3).

**Taylor, David L.**, River Bend, to electrician 1/C-nuclear, Plant Production (3mos.).

**Thompson, Bryan W.**, Lake Charles, to engineer-level II, Electric T&D (3).

**Tomlinson, Brian C.**, Woodlands, to engineer-level II, Electric T&D (2).

**Turner, Carol H.**, Beaumont, to customer contact representative, Division Accounting (11).

**Venable, Joseph E.**, St. Francisville, to assistant plant manager-system engineering, River Bend Nuclear Group (13).

**Walker, Leon H. Jr.**, Baton Rouge, to apprentice-Line & Service, Electric T&D (8).

**Watson, Randall M.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman 1/C, Electric T&D (10).

**Welch, Gregory A.**, Beaumont, to utility worker II, Corporate Services (2).

**Weller, David E.**, St. Francisville, to senior planning & scheduling specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group (9).

**Wiemers, Susan G.**, Beaumont, to senior systems analyst, Computer Applications (2).

**Wilkinson, Timothy W.**, Baton Rouge, to serviceman 1/C, Electric T&D (11).

**Williams, Jerry**, Baton Rouge, to pipeman apprentice, Gas Department (1).

( ) denotes years of service



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## ***"Two Faces Left"***

### **A Tribute**

They have been through the fire and come out as pure gold,  
They have come a long way yet there is a long way to go.

There has been much pain and strife, agony untold,  
To imagine the tribulations, as only they will know.

God has blessed them with a second chance,  
To be a blessing and a testimony to the world that's left.

For these two, we admire and honor their courage and their faith,  
We hold them high in our thoughts, Because, in many ways we also  
received a portion of God's Grace.

They have touched the edge of existence, with this they have  
been strengthened, They have come back to us with  
a better view of life's goals, and values unmentioned.

These two will dwell among us once again,  
So that we might learn the values  
of life which to us, has been given.

Welcome home, the two we love,  
Give thanks to the almighty above.

*A tribute to Larry Sam and Jeff Hollis*

*by*

*Edward Stewart Jr.*

*Electrician-1st class, Neches Station*



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